

**Weekly Status & Information Report:
Week of August 7-August 11, 2006**

1. Tenant Opportunity to Purchase (Wards 2 and 5):

- Tenants residing at 7209 Flower Avenue were given the opportunity to purchase their individual units since the owner recently converted the 6-unit property into condominiums. The tenants first learned of the conversion in February. None of the tenants are opting to stay and therefore are entitled to relocation costs which will be paid by the owner.

- The City learned that 8313 Roanoke Avenue, a 3-unit rental property, is in the process of being sold. Although the tenants were given an opportunity to match the \$475,000 sales contract, the owner failed to send a copy of the notification to the City. Staff contacted the tenants, who confirmed that they were given the option to purchase but were not interested. The sale of the property has been delayed until August 14th, which is the last day that the tenants may exercise their right to purchase. *(Housing and Community Development)*

2. Affordable Housing: Planning for the Montgomery County Housing Fair has been ongoing for the last couple of months. This is the sixth year that the County and its partners (which includes Takoma Park) have sponsored the fair, which has been attended by more than 1,000+ residents each year. The fair gives interested people an opportunity to talk to State, County and City housing staff, lenders, real estate agents, credit counselors, and staff from non-profit housing organizations. The fair is held each year at the Activity Center at Bohrer Park, 506 S. Frederick Avenue in Gaithersburg. This year the Montgomery County Coalition for Financial Literacy will be present, emphasizing "Managing Money and Credit." Flyers announcing the fair will be distributed in September by the City's community organizers to rental properties in Takoma Park. For further information, contact Linda Walker at (301) 891-7222. *(Housing and Community Development)*

3. Landlord-Tenant Affairs (All Wards): Montgomery County Housing Opportunities Commission has announced that it is opening its waiting list for Housing Choice Vouchers (Section 8) from August 14, 2006 - August 18, 2006 ONLY. Applications will be available on line at www.hoc.org and can be submitted by computer directly to HOC. Additionally, applications will be available in all Montgomery County public libraries and regional service centers. Anyone who is currently on the waiting list must submit a new application to be included on the current waiting list. For further information, contact Linda Walker at (301) 891-7222. *(Housing and Community Development)*

4. Music Pirates (Ward 6): Three officers assisted an investigator from the Recording Industry Association of America in visits to Takoma Park businesses, confiscating more than 3,400 pirated or fraudulent CDs. *(Police)*

5. Officers in Training, Meetings and Other Duties (Wards 2, 4 & 6): Two officers attended state training, Criminal Street Gangs - A Safety Perspective; Sgt. Hammond assisted the Laurel Police Department with an assessment center for sergeants; Lt. Cipperly and Sgt. Gilbert attended the pedestrian safety meeting in the Takoma/Langley Crossroads area; community meetings attended by the COP Team include Cpl. Smith at Park Ritchie and Old Town Business Association, and Sgt. Gilbert at Crossroads Development Association. *(Police)*

6. Vehicle Enforcement (All Wards): Officers conducted more than 75 traffic stops, with most ending in citations or warnings. Areas of focus were New Hampshire and Maple Avenues. In response to community concerns, enforcement details were conducted at Carroll and Jefferson. The State Highway Administration trimmed shrubs at that intersection to aid safety. *(Police)*

7. Examinations for the Police: Oral boards were held for communications dispatchers, with several candidates having bilingual skills. All but two candidates advanced into the background investigation phase. The agency will conduct a written entrance exam for police in Ocean City on Aug. 17, followed by oral boards there. Applicants interested in participating should contact Ofc. Gaskin at 301/891-7128 no later than Wednesday morning. *(Police)*

8. The Games: Summer Y.E.S. League wrapped up this week with two championship games (JV & Varsity on Monday), and 4 All-Star games (Middle School and JV vs DC Rec on Tuesday, and Varsity vs. DC Rec and Rec Staff/Coaches vs. "YES League Legends" on Wednesday night). The cozy Piney Branch Elementary School gym was packed all three nights. The TP community always supports this program and this past week was no exception. All three nights were highly entertaining, communal affairs that the Recreation Department is proud to be a part of. *(Recreation)*

9. Employee Appreciation Day: City Council is reminded that, except for the Police Department, City offices will be closed beginning at 10:00am on Friday, August 18, so employees may enjoy their annual Employee Appreciation Day. *(Human Resources)*